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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Eric J. Aasen

Serial No: 10/655,976

Filed: September 5, 2003

Title: STRUCTURED RECLOSABLE
PACKAGING

Group Art Unit: 3727

Examiner: Unassigned

Docket No: 5544-308

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON 1/13/2005. (37 CFR 1.8a)

Janet Byrne

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. These references may be material to examination of the above-identified application. Please do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Enclosed for the Examiner's reference is a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the foreign patent documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;
- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) hereinabove of this section, but is being filed before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or a notice of

allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of the following:

- ☐ (a) A statement that either:
- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

- ☐ (b) The fee of \$180 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but is filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by both:

- ☐ (a) A statement that either:
- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

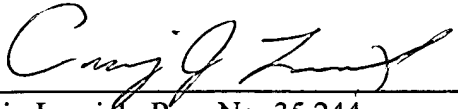
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

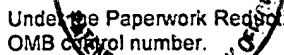
- ☐ (b) The fee of \$180.00 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and signing a copy of Form PTO-1449, transmitted herewith, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-1901** referencing order number 5544-308.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Document Number | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------|---|--|
| | | EP 1132312 A | 09/2001 | Hosokawa Yoko Co., Ltd. | |
| | | GB 2288566 A | 10/1995 | Hosokawa Yoko Co., Ltd. | |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | |
| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.